



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 42 / 2019-20

26th June 2020

END OF YEAR BBQ

Every year we hold a BBQ on the last day of school to see out the year with awards, carnival games, live music, dancing, barbeque food and fireworks to mark the end of the year.

With the COVID-19 lockdown, all public events are banned so we hosted our first virtual BBQ broadcast live on Zoom and YouTube on the last day of school – Thursday 12th June.

Primary 6 graduate, Emil Salmon, proved to be an exceptional Master of Ceremonies, keeping the whole event together and the world entertained. He introduced leading jazz band Salt-Peanuts who played live on stage at school, the Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to the Kyrgyz Republic, Eduard Auer, who opened the event and presented student awards, the school staff band, house awards, Bailanysh News video, and of course presented the Video Showtime Lottery with Director of Studies, Krisha Gandhi. See the [BBQ video here](#).



STUDENT AWARDS

At the BBQ on 12th June our special guest, Eduard Auer, Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to the Kyrgyz Republic, presented awards to some of our outstanding students. All staff in BIS were asked to nominate students. With many outstanding students at the school, the Award Committee (made up of The Management Board and Pedagogical Leadership Team) had many nominations to consider. Whilst all nominees showed exceptional efforts, the following award winners truly stood out for their achievements this semester:

Academic Awards given for excellent academic achievement:

- Primary School: **Emily Desjardins** – for her consistently strong academic skills, a proactive approach to remote learning and for not allowing challenges to stop her from progressing and succeeding in any task set.
- Middle School: **Ilona Pasicinico** – for her dedication and commitment to each subject, some in which she achieved above grade level expectations.
- High School: **Traian Beleac** – for his real desire to improve, his willingness be challenged and for his positive attitude to learning which has led to fantastic results.

Service Awards for students whose service contributes to the development of their fellow classmates, the school and the country.

- Primary School: **Erik Mueller** – for modelling inquiry to his classmates, sharing his insights whilst listening to other perspectives, and for his recent explorations into equal rights.
- Middle School: **Sienna Chamberlain** – for always being involved in service activities, engaging with her class during remote learning and helping PYP graduates in their transition to Middle School.
- High School: **Erkaiym Saparalieva** – for leading the Bailanysh news team and in leading many other service activities. Erkaiym's willingness to volunteer whenever she sees a need is outstanding.

Leadership Awards for students who take leadership roles throughout the school, helping members of the school community to achieve their intellectual, sporting, and creative potential.

- Primary School: **Nikita Koshkin** – for being a leader within the class setting, at home with his younger brother during remote learning, and in optional online meetings and classes.
- Middle School: **Frihthjof Thevs** – for great leadership and organisation skills in group projects, and being caring and responsible toward other students.
- High School: **Geert Ormel** – for being an effective advocate for other students and responsibly representing the thoughts, perspectives and desires of others within his Student Council Representative role.

Global Citizen Awards for students prepared to tackle both global and local issues through a commitment to social justice; tolerance and diversity; good communication skills; and knowledge of global contexts.

- Primary School: **Aysha Turidieva** – who applies the IB learner profile in her life at school and effectively engages others in the process.
- Middle School: **Lana Jiang** – who is respectful to every member of our school, works well with anyone in her class, and not only respects but celebrates our diverse learning community.
- High School: **Kamila Yusupova** – for her multilingual work with varying community member, and her commitment to widening community understanding of Inclusive Education

Finally, a **School Community Award** for **Alibek Nogoibaev** for achieving significant growth towards individual and academic goals throughout the year.



2020/21 ENROLMENT AND FEES

Enrolment for 2020/21 is currently 290 students, which is far ahead of the same time last year, so places are filling up fast.

If you are enrolled, please make sure that any payments are made on time so that places are reserved.

If you are considering enrolment, don't wait! Contact Begimai Urmanbetova, Admissions Officer, email: admissions@bis.kg or mobile & WhatsApp 0706 200 200.

Please note that for the 2020/21 Academic Year, reduced fees will not be available for any students if the school is forced to work remotely, except for a standard refund of 3% of the actual school fees paid (excluding Capital Fund Fee) if the school is closed for any continuous period of 5 school days or more. This refund will be calculated on a pro-rata basis for 180 school days a year and is related to savings in food and utility costs when students are not in school. For students who have already opted out of payment for school lunches, the refund will be calculated at 1% of paid fees. All families should therefore plan to pay the full school fees for the year, regardless of any lockdown imposed by Government.

This situation is very different to the reduced fees offered from March-June 2020 for families suffering hardship due to COVID-19 lockdown. These refunds were put in place to deal with the crisis many families found themselves in. Now we must plan ahead to ensure financial sustainability of the school for all students.

David Grant, Head of School

ESCAPE TO FREEDOM

Many students won their 'Escape to Freedom' T-shirt by being on video during many live video calls in June. These students will receive an email this week confirm that their shirt is ready to collect from school.

If anyone else would like to have ones of these T-shirts as a memento of remote learning in 2020, they are available to order for 750 Som each in 4 adult sizes - S, M/L, L, XXL. No XS or small child size is available. If you would like to order one, email atilekeeva@esca.kg by 6th July to order for collection on 16th July.

Aigerim Tilekeeva, Logistics & Procurement Officer



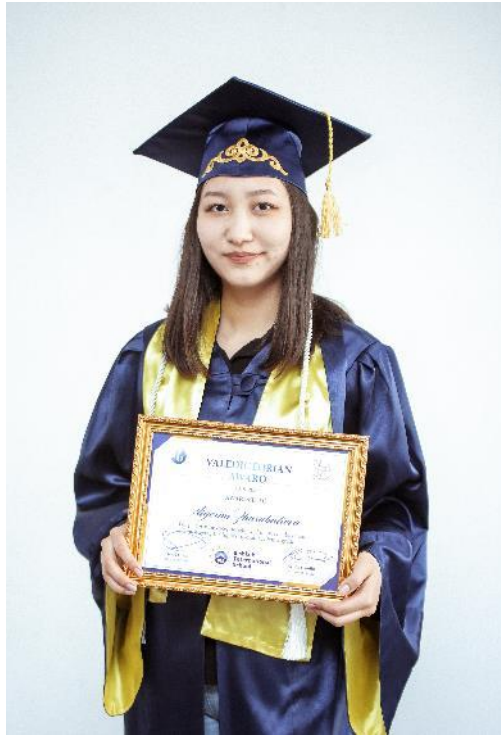
CLASS OF 2020

We are very proud of our class of 2020 who finished their High School years in the peak of a world pandemic and still came through with flying colours.

All thirteen graduates were exceptional and all are going on to greater things.

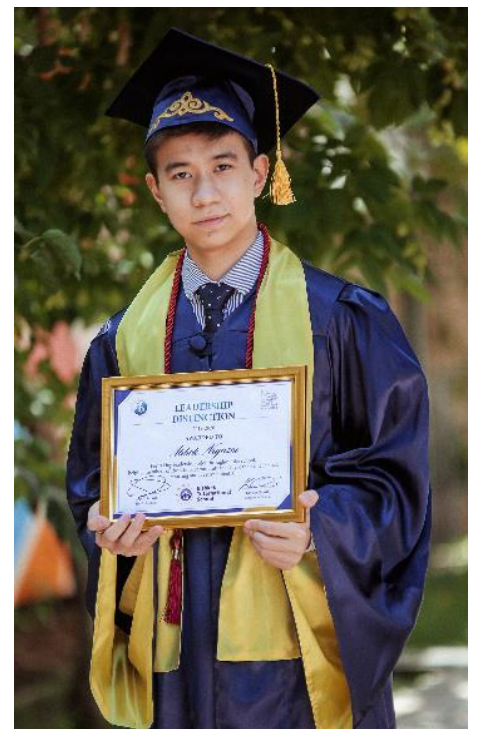
For the second year running we had two graduates who were inseparable for their GPA. Both Aigerim Zhusubalieva and Alessandro Marti achieved an exceptional 3.97 GPA, and both gave wonderful Valedictorian addresses during Graduation.

Distinction Awards were also made during the Graduation Ceremony, for Service, Leadership, and Global Citizen. These awards are always a challenge to decide as so many students are deserving of awards.



The Service Distinction is awarded for commitment to service leading to positive development of the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek International School, and their fellow classmates. All of our students have a strong record of service, so this was a very difficult choice. However, one student never ceased to surprise with her innovation and commitment in service to others. She volunteers with the Interact Club to help disadvantaged families and orphanages, and she has been involved in numerous service projects. During quarantine she did not rest, but set up free online English language discussion groups for students in Kyrgyzstan learning English. She has many Model United Nations awards and she led the team establishing the inaugural MUN event at BIS last year. She is an incredible role model for others to follow. Sabira Duishebaeva is the worthy winner of this award.

The Leadership Distinction is awarded to a student who takes leadership roles throughout the school, helping members of the school community to achieve their intellectual, sporting, and creative potential. We have a class full of leaders and abundant choice. We have awarded a leader who is not the loudest but one who sees the good in everyone and is respected by all students. Someone who, when playing basketball is always thinking how to make his teammates better; he takes responsibility when the going gets tough. The student who other students call 'atets' or 'father' because he makes sure others are supported and that they succeed. This ability to work with everyone and to help them improve is true leadership. Alibek Niyazov is the worthy winner of this award.



The Global Citizen Distinction is awarded to a student prepared to tackle both global and local issues through a commitment to social justice; tolerance and diversity; communication skills; and knowledge of global contexts. Many students could win this award; however, one student stands out with their commitment to and open-mindedness for multiple perspectives, with their ability to carefully argue a case, and in their determination to contribute to global societal development in the future. Our choice is a truly international student who will make a real difference in the world. Zhasmin Taalaibek is the worthy winner of this award.

David Grant, Head of School



BAILANYSH NEWS – THE LAST EPISODE FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR



The final Bailanysh News of the year, a centerpiece of the BBQ, prepared by the amazing DP1 Team of Erkaïym Saparalieva, Ariana Krylova, Askar Shermanbetov and Kamila Yusupova, is a must-see video.

[Click here to watch Bailanysh News: End of the school year episode](#)

HOUSE WINNERS

Our final Art Challenge is over and Dr Anna could not choose the 3 most creative drawings as all the artworks entered were very innovative and exciting.

She decided that all participants would receive an additional 100 house points as all of them are the winners!

After counting points from all the challenges and competitions this year, we are happy to announce our winning House for the 2019/20 school year.



The winning team are Piranhas!

Our students and teachers have participated in 28 house events and collected more than 36 000 house points in total! The most popular events were: Sports Day, Odd Socks Day, UN Day, Halloween, Anniversary Show, Valentine's Day, and the Baby Face competition! P5 Snow Leopards were the most successful of groups - winning 1 694 house points!

Our House Trophy is ready for the winning team – **Piranhas!** We look forward to new challenges and events in the next school year!



Ms. Bojana, ECA & Houses Coordinator

BIS NEW WEBSITE

It is a pleasure to introduce our new and improved website to the school community: www.bis.kg

A huge thank you goes to Ms Adelia (Website Developer) and Ms Begimai (Content Manager) who have been working throughout the year to update information and give the site a more modern look as we approach our 10-year anniversary. Ms Begimai will continue to update the site with photos from the 2019/2020 academic year throughout the summer.

Please do take some time to explore the new website. If you notice any issues, have any concerns or would like to make suggestions, please reach out to Ms Begimai (burmanbetova@bis.kg).



ABOUT US ▾ ADMISSIONS ▾ EDUCATION ▾ ENVIRONMENT ▾ STUDENT LIFE ▾ COMMUNITY ▾ COVID-19
VACANCIES ▾ CONTACTS ▾    



YEARBOOKS 2019/20

A promotional graphic for the 2019/2020 Yearbook. It features a blue sky background with orange stars and a white banner that says 'YEARBOOK 2020'. The Bishkek International School logo is in the top left. A semi-transparent text box in the center contains information about the yearbook's availability and price.

The 2019/20 Yearbook is available in the Admin office. The price is 1500 KGS per yearbook. Every family with at least one parent completing the annual school survey will be given a FREE 2019/20 YEARBOOK per family. A PDF version is now available [here](#).

A VIEW FROM THE ROOF

The rooftop café-terrace for DP students and staff to study and work is almost complete as our first phase of building this summer. A warm summer breeze and views of the mountains await all who study here.

Also appearing this summer are new DP study rooms and staff rooms to make more space for students elsewhere in the school. When combined with COVID-19 controls and hand sanitizer stations throughout the school, a whole new world will be seen when students return on 24th August.

Mirzat Osmonova, Head of Administration



BIS Snapshot: End of Year BBQ 2020



HEALTHY TAIGANS



Have a go at these animal inspired yoga poses this holiday!



Send your pictures to ipak@bis.kg for 10 House Points



How many places can you practice these poses this summer?

SUMMER YOGA CHALLENGE

FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO RECIEVE HOUSE POINTS FOR THE 2020/2021 SCHOOL YEAR!

SCHOOL'S OUT FOR THE SUMMER!

After a busy and exciting final week, which culminated in our first ever Virtual Barbecue on Thursday evening, we wish BIS students, families and staff a wonderful summer break! To those who are leaving us, we wish you all the best on your next adventures and want to thank you for your contributions to the BIS community. To those who are returning to BIS, school starts again on Monday 24th August at 08:00. Our usual meet and greet on the basketball court may look different from previous years so look out for 'First Day Back to School' information to come in August.

You can find a copy of the 2020/2021 school calendar [here](#). Some dates may change during the year, and all changes will be conveyed via email and updated on the school website. Whilst our student and teaching community are away, our wonderful administration and facilities teams will continue to work hard throughout the summer from Monday to Friday. Their tasks include enrolling students, putting together timetables, buying learning resources, processing documentation, and improving and updating our facilities to make sure everything is ready for a safe and smooth start to the next academic year.

If any new family wants to visit the school, visits can be arranged before 15th August. After 15th August, we will be following stricter COVID-19 sanitary controls and regulations as we prepare for a safe start to the academic year.

If you need to contact the school for anything, please email info@bis.kg or call 0312 214 406.

